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Sen. Morse Fights College Subsidies for Secret Research

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WASHINGTON — Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) is determined to restrict secret federal subsidies of college research, especially by the Central Intelligence Agency.

He is trying to do this through an amendment to a House-passed bill, due for Senate debate later this week. The bill would authorize federal aid to colleges and universities to run graduate centers for advanced international studies.

Morse's amendment would require full disclosure in the Federal Register of any contracts between the Welfare Department, which administers such college aid, and any other federal agencies.



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The amendment apparently is meant to preclude the

CIA or any other intelligence-gathering agency from siphoning funds for secret university research through HEW.

But a HEW official said today that, despite Morse's restriction, there would be "nothing we could do if a college wanted to sell out for money" to the CIA by dealing directly with CIA.

This official said the CIA has contracts "with 80-odd colleges." He added: "We have tried to meet Morse's fears and if we hear that a college is financing secret work with money we provide, we don't fund the school."

The CIA has financed research at Michigan State, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and many other schools. Social science research supported by the Army has embarrassed the U. S. abroad and, in the case of a Chilean project, led to presidential cancellation of the project.

Welfare Secretary John W. Gardner assured Morse the money authorized in the bill would not go to non-profit firms like RAND Corp., which does research for the Air Force; the Research Analysis Corp., which does the same for the Army, or for foundations "maintained by the CIA as cover agencies."

The Senate measure sets up a 16-member advisory council which by Apr. 30 must report to the President on how to carry out the law. Only \$1,000,000 would be authorized for the current fiscal year, \$40,000,000 for fiscal 1968 and \$90,000,000 for fiscal 1969.

The money could be used for graduate fellowships and also to help colleges improve their undergraduate instruction in international studies and languages.

Institutions "most in need of funds (and) able to use funds effectively" would get preference. Public and private non-profit organizations could be aided.